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Karen Ashikeh LaMantia
341 Bonito
Long Beach, CA 90802
Feb. 7, 2005

Ms. Angela Reynolds , Environment Officer
Department of Planning and Building: Sports Park DEIR
City Of Long Beach
333 West Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

Concern : AIR POLLUTION DANGERS
METHANE GAS POLLUTION
Section 4.13.6 States that methane gas testing is required when this program reaches its post-grading condition. If tests for methane gas fail "The mitigation...warranted to keep the risk of explosion to within acceptable risk parameters (using a passive venting system) will be required." 1
QUESTIONS:
Is any risk of explosion on sports fields and stands filled with people and acceptable risk?
How is the risk compounded by the close proximity to working oil wells?
Where does this plan propose to vent this flammable gas?

AIRBORNE EMMISSIONS RISK TO THOSE ON SITE
Air quality measurements, including release of gaseous products, was not monitored on this site 24 hours a day, for any extended period of time or at the times of most use of the facility. 2
Testing for these releases is never done at night. I have personally been present near this location and have been overcome by fumes from Signal Hills wells, while inside an air conditioned building.
QUESTIONS:
Can planners assure that no nearby, but offsite fumes, will be released that would be harmful to people playing or watching sports at the park? 3
Has extensive day and nighttime testing ever been done for air quality, in this general area?

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns.

Karen Ashikeh LaMantia
2/7/05

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Willow Springs Taken 2/05

KAREN ASHIKEH LAMANTIA/SEVENTH LETTER

P-10-1
This comment refers to Mitigation Measure 4.13.6. Section 4.13.6 of the Draft EIR is the Impacts and Mitigation Measures section.

The City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety Code will be followed when conducting the methane assessment. Section 4.13 of the Draft EIR states that a methane assessment will be conducted after 30 days have elapsed since rough grading has been completed. The intent of the methane assessment is to adequately identify gas conditions across the site at proposed hardscape and building footprint areas in order to determine whether there is a risk of methane accumulation. Based on the results of the methane assessment, methane mitigation may be necessary.

Explosive gases such as methane typically require a confined or semiconfined environment in which to accumulate to the extent that explosivity is a possibility. The proposed Sports Park will allow for the dissipation of on-site gases that are a byproduct of the operating oil wells.

P-10-2
Section 4.13 of the Draft EIR states that a Soil Management Plan will be prepared and approved by the LARWQCB prior to the commencement of demolition and grading activities on site. The purpose of the Soil Management Plan is to provide direction in the event that discolored or odiferous soil is discovered. SCAQMD Rule 1166 will be complied with during the grading activities. On-site field monitoring will be conducted during the grading activities when odiferous soils, if present, would most likely be disturbed.

SHPI operates and will continue to operate the oil wells on site. SHPI is responsible for operating these oil wells in accordance with the applicable federal, State, and local regulations.

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Please see Response to Comment P-10-2.

The SCAQMD conducts regional air toxics studies in the South Coast Basin. The last published study was in 2000, Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study in the South Coast Air Basin (MATES-II). The SCAQMD is currently conducting air quality sampling for the MATES-III study.

The SCAQMD MATES-II study presents data from 1990 through 1997 in Long Beach for volatile organic compounds, particulate matter, hexavalent chromium, carbon tetrachloride, perchloroethylene, benzene, 1,3-butadiene and para-dichlorobenzene. The MATES-II study shows a decreasing trend in cancer risk due to air pollutants from 1990 to 1997 in Long Beach. Additionally, the data from the MATES-I study, collected in 1986 and 1987, were compared to the data from the MATES-II study and showed a significant decreasing trend in the cancer risk attributable to air pollutants in Long Beach